

HOW·NI·KAN

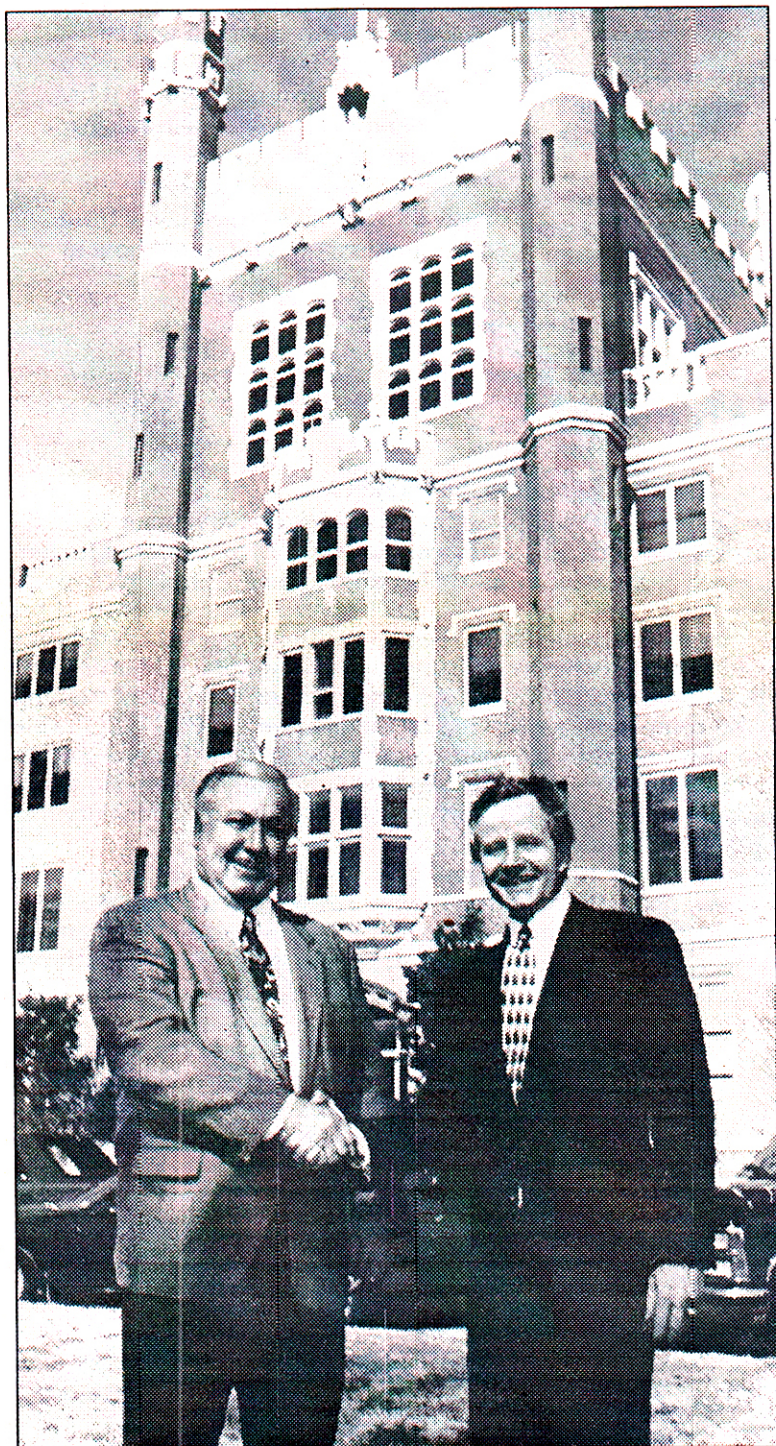
PEOPLE OF THE FIRE



Vol. 19, No. 2

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

February 1997



Chairman John Barrett, St. Gregory's President Dr. Frank Pfaff Shake Hands On The College Campus
(Photo Courtesy Ed Blochowiak, Shawnee News-Star)

St. Gregory's welcomes tribe's help as historic college becomes university

By Anne Barajas
St. Gregory's College
(Reprinted from the Feb. 9, 1997,
issue of *The Shawnee News-Star*)

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has entered into a \$1 million partnership agreement with St. Gregory's College.

"The histories of St. Gregory's and the Potawatomi Nation are inextricably linked," St. Gregory's President Frank Pfaff said. "We are honored that the nation's leaders have chosen to become a vital part of St. Gregory's future. "We look forward to developing avenues of cooperation, fostering leadership support and involving our organizations in mutually beneficial endeavors."

The Potawatomi agreement, which will provide \$200,000 each year during the next five years, will provide funds for new spiritual, educational and technological programs between St. Gregory's and the Potawatomi Nation.

"Our development team is very excited about the prospect of working with the future St. Gregory's University and the dynamic leadership the university will provide. All the members of our tribal government are elated with the concept and are anxious to announce the first activity to our people," said John "Rocky" Barrett, chairman of the business committee of the Potawatomi Nation.

The elected government of

the nation includes Barrett, vice chairman Linda Capps, secretary-treasurer Gene Bruno and committeemen Hilton Melot and J.P. Motley.

"The prospect of history repeating itself in a new relationship with the Benedictines of St. Gregory's's Abbey is so very appealing to our customs and heritage. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation wishes to celebrate and renew this relationship and lay the groundwork for a new era of educational and technological opportunity," Barrett said.

St. Gregory's and the Potawatomis are exploring such partnership efforts as interactive technologies to teach the Potawatomi language on the Internet, economic development opportunities for the

Potawatomi Nation, and health-care initiatives and wellness programs in conjunction with St. Gregory's Mabee Aerobic Center.

The Potawatomi Nation has more than 23,000 members across the United States. Barrett is the seventh generation of his family to hold Potawatomi tribal office since 1938. During his tenure, the nation has created a new tribal constitution; greatly expanded its services to members; and established business opportunities, including a job training and placement center for the Department of Labor, a museum and gift shop, a golf course, and the First National Bank and Trust Co. The Potawatomi

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Potawatomi Day plans unfold as 24th annual Pow-Wow nears

It's only four months 'til Pow-Wow!

The 24th annual Potawatomi Pow-Wow, set for June 27, 28 and 29, will be a celebration of the Potawatomi people as well as the latest version of one of the nation's largest intertribal dance competitions.

Pow-Wow Chairman Esther Lowden said plans are being firmed up for the long-anticipated Potawatomi Day at the Pow-Wow, a new feature this year. The first day of the three-day event will be for tribal members only this year, the result of many years of comments and suggestions from tribal members who have said there wasn't enough time under the traditional schedule to visit with family and tribal officials informally.

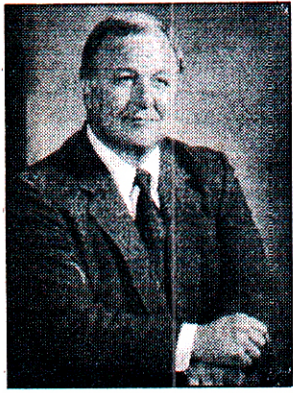
"We'll begin with supper on the grounds at 5 p.m. Friday," said Lowden. The free dinner will replace the one

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TRIBAL TRACTS



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

BY JOHN A. BARRETT JR.

Bourzho Nikon (Hello My Friends),

In case there's any misunderstanding, I want to make it very clear what the relationship is between the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and St. Gregory's.

We did not give them a million dollar gift.

We did agree to buy \$1 million worth of services from St. Gregory's. For all of you out there who have expressed concern about this issue, please understand:

No tribal monies will be spent in the purchase of these services from St. Gregory's. All monies spent are federal contract and grant-in-aid funds.

Megwetch,

John Barrett

History of college, tribe entwined

Continued from page 1

watomi Nation is the first Native American tribe ever to purchase an operating, chartered national bank.

St. Gregory's, which was named Oklahoma's fastest-growing college or university for the second year in a row by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, is the state's oldest institution of higher education and the

only Catholic college in Oklahoma or Arkansas.

The college originally was part of the Sacred Heart Abbey, established near Konawa by French Benedictine monks Father Isidore Robot and Brother Dominic Lambert. Robot and Lambert are credited with spreading Catholicism throughout Oklahoma.

They were welcomed to present-day Pottawatomie County in 1875 by leaders of the Citizen Band Potawatomi. The Potawatomi had been pushed from their original home in the Great Lakes area to Kansas, where they endured numerous hardships. Many Potawatomi chose to move to Indian Territory. About half of the Potawatomi population was Catholic and actively sought clergy to establish a Catholic parish.

The Potawatomis gave Robot and Lambert one acre of land to build the Sacred Heart Mission and school. Sacred Heart burned in 1900, and the abbey and college were moved to Shawnee and renamed St. Gregory's in 1910.

Today, the St. Gregory's Abbey is composed of 35 Benedictine monks, many of whom teach or work in the college.

St. Gregory's development into a university will be funded by a five-year, \$40 million "Era of Transformation" campaign to provide for the construction, renovation and technological expansion necessary to help the college evolve into Oklahoma's first laptop university and the first "university of the 21st century." For more information on the Era of Transformation campaign or St. Gregory's, call the office of Institutional Advancement at (405) 878-5419.

Brush arbor, traditional meals on tap when tribe hosts Gathering of Nations

A traditional brush arbor is among the many special things currently in the planning stages as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation prepares to host the 1997 Gathering of the Nations in August.

Representatives of all seven organized bands and tribes of the Potawatomi people will come to Shawnee Aug. 22-24 to teach, learn and share with each other just as they have since the first Gathering in 1984.

Tribal Chairman John A. Barrett, who attended last year's Gathering at the Hannahville Indian Community near Wilson, Michigan, said the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is greatly honored to be hosting the event this year. Working on the arrangements, among others, is Esther Lowden, who said many of the activities will focus on the traditional.

"We will provide at least two traditional meals," she said. There will also be sharing of language, crafts, stories and other traditions, especially by elders of the bands, which include in addition to the Citizen Potawatomi, the Hannahville Potawatomi, Prairie Potawatomi, Forrest County Potawatomi, Huron Potawatomi, Canadian Potawatomi and Pokegon Potawatomi.

The brush arbor, which will be constructed behind the grandstand at the pow-wow grounds, will, as it has for generations, provide natural shade during the daytime activities.

"It will be a time to return to the basic things we've gotten away from," said Lowden, "and forgotten how to do."

Walking on ...

LARRY EUGENE SMITHSON

Our beloved Larry Eugene Smithson passed from this life on November 16, 1996, at his home in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. His death was the result of a motorcycle accident on April 18, 1994, in which he sustained multiple injuries and never fully recovered.

Larry was born October 29, 1949, in Henryetta, Oklahoma. He spent most of his school years in Henryetta and graduated from there in 1967. He attended Draughton's Business College in Oklahoma City before enlisting in the United States Marine Corp in May 1968. After basic training he received several weeks of specialized training including hand to hand combat. While serving in Vietnam he received two Purple Hearts, Combat Action Ribbon, RNN Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Navy Achievement Medal, Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. He was a member of the American Legion and VFW in Henryetta. He worked for twenty five years for Ball Glass plant in Okmulgee.

Larry is survived by his wife Judy of Okmulgee; two sons, Craig Eugene and Michael Eugene of Tulsa; one daughter, Terri Lynn Fowler, Henryetta; two step-daughters, Shelby Coullogh and Tammy McPhearson, Okmulgee; and four grandsons. He had one brother, Jack Smithson, Tahlequah; one nephew, Jackie Smithson; one niece, Tammy Smithson, Tahlequah. One brother preceded him in death in 1948, Omer Gene Smithson Jr.

He was the son of Omer Gene Smithson of Henryetta and Frances Louise Bourassa-Howell of Big Spring, Texas. His grandparents were Ewing Webster, Pete Bourassa, (1886-1979) and Ruby Nellie Smith Bourassa, (1907-1976), and Chloe Irene Sharp Smithson (deceased). He was the great-grandson of Theodore Santa Bourassa and Margaret Ellen Muller Bourassa.

Interment was in the Western Cemetery in Henryetta, Oklahoma.

HOW-NI-KAN PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

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All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1901 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Ok. 74801.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Business Committee
Chairman - John A. "Rocky" Barrett Jr.
Vice Chairman - Linda Capps
Sec./Treasurer - Gene Bruno
Committeeman - Hilton Meiot
Committeeman - Jerry P. Motley

Toll-Free Number: 1-800-880-9880
<http://www.potawatomi.org>

TRIBAL ELECTION NOTICE

The annual tribal referendum and election will be held on June 28, 1997. Voting will be at the tribal complex the day of the election from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Requests to vote an absentee ballot must be made by June 9, 1997. Requests for absentee ballots must be in writing and include the correct mailing address, roll number and legal signature of the person making the request.

A referendum budget to determine expenditures of accumulated interest from set-aside funds, as well as the election of the Tribal Chairman for a four-year term and Grievance Committee Members #1, #2 and #3 for two-year terms.

Requests for tribal election ballots should be mailed to: Potawatomi Election Committee, P. O. Box 310, Tecumseh, OK 74873.

The filing dates for candidates in the 1997 election are March 31, April 1 and April 2, 1997.

TRIBAL TRACTS

Potawatomi-inspired sovereignty legislation faces fight

By Gloria Trotter

Members of Shawnee's legislative delegation have introduced bills to prevent future legal battles such as the one the Citizen Potawatomi Nation has been embroiled in over with a contractor for the bank building, but it will be a fight.

Both Rep. Bob Weaver and Sen. Brad Henry have introduced bills which make tribes immune from the jurisdiction of state courts in most cases. Potawatomi leaders asked for the legislation after C & L Enterprises successfully sued the tribe in state court over a contract dispute stemming from the construction of First National Bank and Trust. The tribe has appealed to the federal courts.

"House Bill 1365, introduced by Rep. Bob Weaver, and Senate Bill 482, introduced by Sen. Brad Henry, say that state courts have no jurisdiction in tribal cases," Tribal Chairman John Barrett said recently. "The Citizen Potawatomi Nation hopes that the legislative leadership gives these bills fair consideration."

Weaver's House version was as-

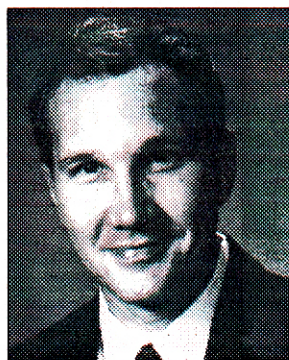
signed to the Rules Committee, the "place bills go to die," said Barrett. But on Feb. 18, Henry was successful in getting his bill passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

which he chairs, although it was on a 6-5 vote. "We had a healthy debate over tribal sovereignty," Henry said, adding that he is working with David McCullough of the tribe's law firm to amend the bill to make it even stronger before it goes to the floor of the Senate.

"I just want to put everyone on notice that there is a conflict between the two jurisdictions (the state and the federal government)," said Henry, an attorney. "Ultimately, the U.S. Supreme Court will decide this issue, but everyone doing business with Indian tribes should know they're going to have to



Sen. Brad Henry



Rep. Bob Weaver

get an express waiver of tribal sovereignty." That waiver would have to be approved by the tribe's governing body under the amendment he and McCullough plan to add.

"I think I can get the bill out of the Senate," Henry said. "Traditionally, the Senate is more friendly to tribes and sovereignty issues." But, he added, it will be a fight in the House, which is not so sympathetic to such issues. He said he and Weaver agreed that the best strategy would be to push the bill in the Senate rather than the House for that reason. If Weaver pushed for a hearing on his bill and it was killed, that could be used as an excuse not to consider Henry's Senate bill if it is passed and sent over.

"Although I will face an uphill battle

in my attempt to pass this legislation," Henry said, "I am serious about this effort."

"Notwithstanding 150 years of precedent that Indian law is federal law, it is simply in the best interests of the State of Oklahoma to pass this bill," Barrett said. "Oklahoma courts are already overcrowded. Imagine the flood of litigation that will result when the fee-hungry lawyers find out that guaranteed protracted litigation is available in spurious lawsuits against Indian tribes."

"Since every case will most certainly involve numerous motions and filings to remove the case to federal court, they will find the lure of added billable hours irresistible," the chairman speculated. "A forum already exists in which one can pursue legal resolution of a dispute with an Indian tribe in federal court."

"Indian tribes are caught in a dilemma, a Catch-22, in that their mere appearance in an Oklahoma courtroom constitutes a waiver of immunity from suit."

Absentee-Shawnee attorney claims federal court decision not yet final

A lawyer's opinion that the federal court ruling in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation case against the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe and the Bureau of Indian Affairs is not final has drawn a strong reaction from Tribal Chairman John Barrett.

Absentee-Shawnee tribal attorney Merrilyn Livermon, writing in the February edition of the Absentee-Shawnee News, reviewed the history of the case in an article titled "Setting The Record Straight." Noting that there "has been much misinformation and uniformed (sic) speculation" about the case, Livermon gave a fairly straightforward account of the suit first filed in 1992, but concluded that "Because the case is on appeal, the decision of the District Court is not final. Contrary to popular belief, this is not a done deal," the attorney stated.

She goes on to point out that the appeal process, first to the Tenth Circuit and then to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary, could take years.

"I can't believe that a member of the bar licensed to practice before the federal courts would make a statement that a decision of a district court is not a final judgment," said Barrett. "Ms. Livermon for some reason believes, or at least states, that an appeal somehow moots a final decision of a federal district court."

"This is not true.

"What is true about Ms. Livermon's article is that the district court did disagree with the BIA decision and did find that the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe doesn't share a common reservation and that the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe and cannot take land into trust in our jurisdiction without our consent," he noted. "In this she is correct.

"To quote her, 'the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe never got a treaty to the land ratified.' What is most disturbing about Ms. Livermon's article is that employees of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe believe they have legal justification to ignore a final decision of the federal courts simply because there is an appeal," the chairman said. "That final decision is the status quo. It is the law that is in effect right now.

"Unless that decision is reversed, it is the law they must obey."

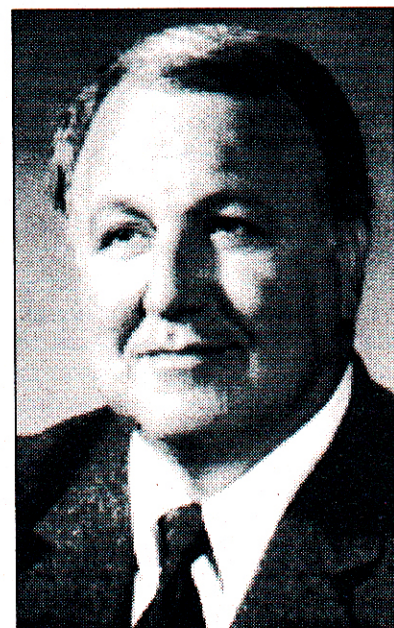
While the Potawatomi, Sac & Fox and Kickapoo continue their protests with the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) about the Absentee-Shawnee housing projects in their jurisdictions, problems between the tribal police departments continue. "They (the Absentee-Shawnee's) have perpetrated a ruse on the Tecumseh Police Department," Barrett said, referring to misinformation and misunderstanding about tribal housing in the Tecumseh city limits.

Barrett said the "concerns about jurisdiction have escalated to the point that the U.S. Attorney has called a meeting for Feb. 25 of the attorneys general of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Absentee-Shawnees, the Sac & Fox and the Kickapoos."

POTAWATOMI PRIDE

POTAWATOMI PROGRESS

In the past dozen years, the Potawatomi people have seen their tribe grow in every way. From the make-shift offices in a trailer to the beautiful, sprawling tribal complex that is the envy of all, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's services and enterprises have made it one of the most progressive tribes anywhere. I've been grateful for the opportunity to lead the tribe during that period, and I'd be grateful for the opportunity to lead the Citizen Potawatomi Nation into the next century. I ask for your vote June 28 in the election for Tribal Chairman.



**SUPPORT
VOTE FOR
RE-ELECT**

**Chairman John A. 'Rocky'
BARRETT**

Paid for by John A. Barrett Jr.

1997 CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ELECTION ORDINANCE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION:

ARTICLE I CITATION AND PURPOSE

S1-101: Citation

This enactment may be cited as the 1997 Election Ordinance of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

S1-102: Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to repeal the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Election Ordinance of 1983 and to establish the rules and procedures for conducting elections authorized in Article 12, Section 1 of the Tribal Constitution.

ARTICLE II WORDS AND PHRASES

S2-101: Definitions

The following definitions shall control the meanings of the following terms:

- "Tribal Court" shall mean the Potawatomi Tribal Court sitting at the Potawatomi Tribal Complex in Shawnee, Oklahoma.
 - "General Council Resolution" shall mean the official document, and its adoption by the Business Committee, by which the General Council acts on behalf of its membership under the authority reserved to it by the Tribal Constitution.
 - "Tribe" and all derivatives thereof (e.g. "tribal") shall mean the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.
- ### S2-102: Time Periods
- Unless otherwise provided herein, all of the time periods established herein for filing, challenges, contests, or appeals are jurisdictional and cannot be waived.

ARTICLE III ELECTION COMMITTEE

S3-101: Creation

An Election Committee is hereby created and established having the duties and powers hereinafter set forth. The Election Committee shall conduct all elections and referendum votes in accordance with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal By-Laws, and with this ordinance.

S3-102: Composition

The Election Committee shall consist of five persons: a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and a Marshal.

S3-103: Appointment

The Business Committee shall appoint the members of the Election Committee and designate the Chairman of the Committee:

- Not later than one hundred fifty (150) days prior to an election.
- By resolution in substantially as set forth in Appendix Form 1. (Resolution Format)
- If a vacancy occurs on the Election Committee, the Business Committee shall fill the vacancy within five (5) days.

S3-104: Oath

Prior to entering into the duties of office, each Election Committee member shall take the following oath of office to be administered by a member of the Business Committee or a Tribal Court Judge:

I, _____, do hereby solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and laws of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and will cause the elections of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to be conducted fairly, impartially, and in accordance with the laws of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, so help me God.

S3-105: Officer Selection

The Business Committee shall select from among the Election Committee members, a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and a Marshal shall be selected by the Election Committee, who shall certify in writing to the Business Committee the names of the persons so selected.

S3-106: Sub-Appointments

The Election Committee may appoint such observers, clerks, counters, marshals, and alternates, as necessary to conduct the election and shall certify such appointments in writing to the Business Committee.

S3-107: Filing Certifications

Copies of all certified appointments and sub-appointments shall be filed in the tribal Secretary's office and be open for public inspection.

S3-108: Eligibility

No person may be appointed to the Election Committee unless eligible and qualified.

- A person is eligible if:
 - A member of the Tribe.
 - 21 years of age or older.
- A person is not qualified for appointment if:
 - Under any court-ordered guardianship due to mental incapacity.
 - The natural or adopted brother, sister, parent, child or spouse to a current candidate.
 - A current candidate for election to any tribal office to be decided by that election.
 - Ever convicted of a felony.
 - Ever convicted of a non-felonious crime involving the election laws of the Tribe, or
 - Ever found civilly or criminally liable for breaching a fiduciary or contractual duty to the Tribe.

S3-109: Term

Each Election Committee member shall serve from appointment until the election results for all election offices have been certified.

S3-110: Compensation

Members of the Election Committee are to receive only such compensation, traveling expenses, or stipend, as may be authorized by the Business Committee.

S3-111: Records

The Election Committee shall maintain complete and accurate minutes of meetings and retain all documents pertaining to an election. These records shall be filed in the Tribal Secretary's office within forty-eight (48) hours after each meeting and shall be open for public inspection during normal office hours at the Potawatomi tribal Complex.

S3-112: Duties

Each Election Committee member has the duty to become thoroughly familiar with this ordinance and the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws, to see that these laws are rigorously followed, and to immediately document and report any violations to the marshal or other law enforcement personnel. In addition:

- Chairman:** The Chairman shall be the presiding member and responsible for the overall activities of the Election Committee, including safekeeping of the ballots and ballot box(s).
- Vice-Chairman:** The Vice-Chairman shall assist the Chairman, preside in his absence and assist in the conduct of the election.
- Secretary:** The Secretary shall record and maintain accurate minutes of meetings and records pertaining to an election. The Secretary shall verify the authenticity of these records and the responsible for providing all Election Committee certifications except where otherwise provided herein after each Election Committee meeting. All records shall be filed with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe with two (2) working days after each meeting.
- Assistant Secretary:** The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary and serve in the Secretary's absence, and assist in the conduct of the elections.
- Clerks:** The Clerks shall assist in the conduct of the elections, and shall check off the voters on the list of qualified voters. Each clerk shall keep a separate record of the members voting which shall be cross-checked frequently by the Chairman or his designate, to insure accuracy.
- Marshal:** The Marshal shall maintain order at the polls, and enforce the election laws. The Marshal shall have these powers from the time the polls open until the declaration of all election results are final.

S3-113: Procedure

The Election Committee acts only by majority vote of a quorum at a properly called and noticed meeting.

- Quorum:** A quorum of the Election Committee shall consist of any three members.

- Meeting:** Meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman, or by request of a majority of the Election Committee and shall notify the Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe two (2) working days prior to the meeting. In the event the Chairman fails to call a meeting as requested, the other members of the Election Committee who request a meeting may convene one upon prior registered mail notification to all members of the Election Committee and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe. The Secretary-Treasurer of the tribe shall receive prior notice of all meetings.

- Where:** All meeting shall be at the tribal office unless notice of the place and time of the meeting is conspicuously posted in the tribal office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

S3-114: Rules

The Election Committee shall have the authority to recommend such rules, not inconsistent with this Ordinance, as may be necessary and proper for the conduct of tribal elections. Such rules shall be approved by the Business Committee. Copies should also be posted in prominent places in the tribal offices and such other places as the Election Committee may deem advisable. A copy of the rules should be promptly delivered to the tribal newsletter for publication.

ARTICLE IV GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

S4-101: Election Days

All tribal elections and referendum votes, unless otherwise specifically provided by law, shall be held on a Saturday. Regular elections of members of the Business Committee and Grievance Committee shall be held on the last Saturday in June of each election year. All other required tribal elections or referendum votes shall be held upon call of the Business Committee or the Election Committee as provided by the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws.

S4-102: Forms

The forms contained in the Appendix of Forms are sufficient under this ordinance and are intended to indicate the simplicity and brevity of statement which this ordinance contemplates. Except as provided herein, prescribed and provided by the Election Committee. The Tribe shall be responsible for the cost of producing all forms.

S4-103: Instructions to Voters

Instructions to voters describing the manner of casting one's vote shall be posted at the polling place and issued upon request to all eligible voters with a ballot.

S4-104: Public Information

The Election Committee shall widely disseminate to the tribe information about the dates and times of election, locations of polling places and other election-related data. The Election Committee is authorized to publish in the tribal newsletter and other newsprint media names of candidates, election dates, polling places, election results, and other information as necessary to discharge its duties.

S4-105: Polling Place

Polling places shall be designated for each election on the tribal grounds, and for an absentee ballot mailing address.

S4-106: Ballot Box

Locked empty ballot box(s) shall be provided and shown at the polling places prior to voting. Each ballot box shall be constructed of substantial material and shall be equipped with a lock so that the keys of one lock will not unlock others. Each box shall be equipped with a slot or opening in the top through which a ballot may be inserted, but so the box must be unlocked before the ballots can be removed.

S4-107: Access to Ballots

The Election Committee Chairman and Secretary shall retain ballot

box keys in their custody until all election results are finally certified. Only those authorized by this ordinance shall have access to the ballot boxes at specific times designated by the Election Committee.

S4-108: Voting Booths

At least two voting booths shall be provided at the polling place. The booths shall be constructed with a counter shelf so that:

- No more than one person is in the booth, and
- Voters can mark their ballots in secrecy.

S4-109: Poll Watchers

Each candidate may designate in writing one person, not a candidate, to watch the activities at the polls.

- A Poll Watcher is eligible if:
 - A member of the Tribe.
 - 21 years of age or older.

- A Poll Watcher is not qualified for appointment if:
 - Under any court-ordered guardianship due to mental incapacity.
 - Ever convicted of a felony.
 - Ever convicted of a non-felonious crime involving the election laws of the Tribe, or
 - Ever found civilly or criminally liable for breaching a fiduciary or contractual duty to the Tribe.

Such designation must be presented to Election Committee Officials one week prior to the election. Poll watchers may not interfere in any way with the conduct of the election, but may observe only. Any poll watcher interfering with the election or attempting to electioneer in any way may be ejected from the poll area by a marshal or law enforcement officer.

S4-110: Electioneering and Loitering

No person shall be allowed to electioneer inside or within one hundred (100) feet of the polling place where and when the election is in progress. Neither will any loitering be permitted in the polling places during voting hours. Election officials at the polling place have the duty to obtain such assistance as may be required to maintain order about the building during the progress of the election.

S4-111: Voter Conduct

No intoxicated person will be permitted in the polling place. No person will be permitted to conduct himself in such a manner which may interfere with the election progress. No person shall engage in any activity which serves as a detriment to the election progress or which inhibits the rights of another to vote.

S4-112: Anonymous Election Material

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, partnership, organization, or association to write, print, post, or distribute or cause to be written, printed, posted or distributed a statement, circular, poster, advertisement which is designed to influence the voters on the nomination or election of a candidate or to influence the voters on any constitutional or statutory amendment or on any other issue in a Potawatomi tribal election, or to influence the vote of any member of the Business Committee or Tribal Council, unless there appears in a conspicuous place upon such circular, poster, or advertisement, either the name and address of the person, if an individual, or the name and address of the president, chairman, or secretary, or of two officers of the organization, if an organization. Persons violating this act shall be guilty of a crime punishable by the maximum incarceration and fine allowed by law.

S4-113: Application

The provisions of this section shall not be construed to apply to any matter published in any newspaper, magazine, or journal recognized and circulating as such, which matter is published upon its own responsibility and for which it shall not charge or receive any compensation whatsoever, not shall the provisions of this section apply to any publication issued by any legally-constituted election officials in the performance of their duties. For purposes of this provision only, a newspaper, magazine or journal is a publication which is published at intervals of either one continuous basis for the six months prior to the date when ballots can first be requested by tribal members for elections of Business Committee members at the General Council. The newspaper, magazine or journal must also bear the address of the business office where the publisher or legal representative is located.

S4-114: Public Disclosure of Campaign Contributions

Each candidate for elective offices in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation shall file a public disclosure statement that identifies all persons, corporations, groups, etc., contributing in excess of \$50.00 to that individual's campaign. This disclosure must be made to the Secretary Treasurer of the Tribe no later than four (4) weeks after the day of the election. If no contribution has been received, a statement must be filed so stating. Failure to file a public disclosure under this section is punishable by a fine of \$500.00 and possible disqualification from the election if the individual falsifies or refuses to file the required reports.

ARTICLE V CHAPTER ONE ELIGIBLE VOTERS

S5-101: Eligibility

Every tribal member 18 years of age and older in accordance with Article 5, Section 1 of the Tribal Constitution shall be eligible and entitled to vote in all tribal elections.

S5-102: Voter Lists

The tribal Secretary shall have the duty to compile from the tribal membership rolls a voter list of all persons who will be eligible voters on the date scheduled for the election and shall certify the voter list and:

- Present a certified copy to the Election Committee no later than ninety (90) days prior to the election (if possible).
- Maintain at least one certified copy in the tribal office for public inspection during regular business hours no later than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the election.
- Maintain at least one certified copy at each polling place on election day to check the eligibility of those presenting themselves to

Continued on the next page

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Continued from previous page

vote.

CHAPTER TWO CHALLENGES

S5-201: Who May Challenge

Any person may challenge the eligibility of anyone whose name appears on the voter list, or may apply to have his name added to the voter list.

S5-202: How To Challenge

A voter list challenge is initiated by filing a written petition with the Election Committee. No special form of petition shall be required although the petition shall:

- Clearly indicate the substance of the challenge,
- Specify the name, or names challenged,
- Set forth the relief requested,
 - To add a name, or
 - To delete a name, and
 - Include supporting evidence.

S5-203: Time for Challenge

A challenge must be initiated no later than ten (10) days after the Tribal Secretary deposits the certified voter list in the tribal office.

S5-204: Decision

The Election Committee should render a decision on a challenge within ten (10) days of filing. Failure to timely act will be considered a denial of the challenge.

S5-205: Appeal

Any party aggrieved by the action or inaction of the Election Committee may thereafter appeal to Tribal Court.

S5-206: Appeal Time

An appeal must be filed within two (2) days of the de facto or de jure decision by the Election Committee.

S5-207: Appeal Parties

The individual members of the Election Committee and Business Committee shall not be named as defendants in an appeal. The tribal attorney shall represent the Election Committee and/or Business Committee and the court shall expedite such cases so as to reach a final decision prior to election day. No election shall be postponed because of a pending voter list challenge.

ARTICLE VI CANDIDATES

S6-101: Eligibility to File

In order to file for any office, a candidate must be eligible and qualified:

- A person is eligible if:
 - Twenty-one (21) years of age or older,
 - A member of the Tribe, and
 - Physically residing within Pottawatomie, Seminole, Pontotoc, McClain, Oklahoma, Lincoln, Cleveland and Okfuskee counties of Oklahoma.
- A person is not qualified if:
 - Ever convicted of a felony,
 - Ever found civilly or criminally liable for a breach of fiduciary duty to the Tribe, or
 - Ever impeached or recalled by the Tribe.
- Each candidate for a Business Committee office in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma shall state that he or she will submit a completed personal information form to the Comptroller of the Currency as required under the standard Change of Control application form for National Banks no later than seven (7) days after elections are held, if elected. This statement will be incorporated into the candidates filing form.

S6-102: Ballot Eligibility

To be eligible to seek election and be placed on the ballot, a person must timely file for that office.

S6-103: Filed Candidate

To be a filed candidate, one must:

- Be eligible to file,
- Timely file a declaration of candidacy with:
 - The Tribal Secretary-Treasurer or his designate, and
 - The Election Committee or their designate.
- Timely pay a filing fee of one-hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) upon filing by cashier's check, which is refundable if the candidate is declared ineligible or withdraws.

S6-104: Filing Period

A candidate must file during regular business hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. no earlier than ninety (90) and no later than eight seven (87) days prior to the date of the election. The filing period is for a total of three working days.

S6-105: Form of Declaration

Although no particular form is required, the declaration of candidacy must be by affidavit and contain sufficient information for the Election Committee to determine that the candidate is eligible to file, is seeking a particular office, and has complied with this ordinance. The declaration should be substantially as shown in Appendix Form 2.

S6-106: Nicknames

Each candidate may specify one (1) nickname to be placed on the ballot alongside the candidate's true name. No nicknames may be used if identical or substantially similar to the name or nickname of another candidate. Should a dispute over the use of a name arise, the Election Committee's decision shall be final and unappealable. To specify a nickname, a candidate must affirm in the declaration of candidacy that:

- The candidate is known by the nickname, and
- The nickname is not being used for any other purpose than to accurately identify the candidate.

S6-107: Acceptance

The Election Committee shall accept any filing by a person which, on its face, appears valid, that is, shows the candidate filing is eligible, qualified and has timely filed, and tendered the filing fee. Acceptance shall entitle the candidate to have his name appear on the ballot unless the candidate withdraws as hereinafter set forth or unless a contest to his candidacy is sustained in the manner hereinafter described.

S6-108: Certification of Slate

As soon as practicable after the filing period closes, the Election Committee shall file a written certification of the slate of candidates for the election with the Tribal Secretary.

The certification shall also indicate all filings not accepted and the reasons for non-acceptance.

S6-109: Use of Tribal Newspaper

After filing closes, the tribal newspaper will provide an equal amount of free space in the next edition for all candidates appearing on the certified slate. The purpose of allowing the free space is to allow the candidates to identify themselves to the voters. All other space in the tribal newspaper shall be available to candidates on a fee basis established by the Business Committee to reflect publication and distribution cost only.

HowNikan Editor shall have final approval on contents of free and paid advertisements and shall review their contents for libel, slander, and inaccuracy of facts with the tribal attorney. Deadlines for receiving advertisement copy are set by editor and published in the newspaper.

S6-110: Filing For More Than One Office Prohibited

No person shall be a candidate for more than one office during any one election, no may a tribal office holder seek another office except when the office holder's term expires contemporaneously with the election. Each candidate must specify which office is being sought; Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, Councilman 1, Councilman 2, Grievance Committee 1, Grievance Committee 2 and Grievance Committee 3.

CHAPTER TWO WITHDRAWALS

S6-201: Withdrawals

Any candidate for office may withdraw a declaration of candidacy by filing a written notice of withdrawal with the Election Committee at any time not less than sixty (60) days prior to the election. The withdrawal notice shall contain the candidate's name, the office sought, and shall be notarized or sworn to before a person authorized to administer oaths. A timely withdrawal is final.

S6-202: Procedure on Withdrawal

If a candidate withdraws, the Election Committee shall post notices to that effect at all polling places and within the voting booths, and may line through or otherwise obliterate the candidates name from the ballots. Any votes cast for a withdrawn candidate shall be rejected.

CHAPTER THREE CHALLENGES

S6-301: Kinds

The certified slate may be challenged either because a candidacy was allegedly wrongfully certified or because a person's attempted filing was allegedly wrongfully rejected. Any challenge to the certified slate must be made within seventy-two (72) hours after slate has been certified to be a valid challenge.

S6-302: Who May Challenge

Any candidate may challenge the eligibility of any other candidate for the same office. If only one candidate has filed for an office, any person on the voter list may challenge the eligibility of that candidate.

Only the person whose filing is not accepted may challenge the non-acceptance.

S6-303: How To Challenge

A challenge must be initiated by filing a written petition with the Election Committee. Each petition shall state with particularity the reasons for the challenge.

S6-304: Hearing

Upon receiving a candidacy challenge, the Election Committee shall immediately deliver copies to the challenged candidate and all other candidates for that office. A hearing on the challenge must be held within five (5) days of receipt of challenge. The Election Committee must render a decision on the challenge within seventy-two (72) hours of commencing a hearing. No formal pleadings are required. The Election Committee may subpoena witnesses and take testimony under oath. The challenger has the burden of proof.

CHAPTER FOUR APPEAL

S6-401: Appeal

Any proper party to a candidacy challenge aggrieved by the Election Committee decision may appeal to the Tribal Court.

S6-402: Appeal Time

An appeal must be filed with the Tribal Court on or before the expiration of two (2) business days following announcement of the Election Committee decision.

S6-403: Relief

The appellant shall have the burden of proof. The Tribal Court shall either:

- Affirm the Election Committee decision.
- Reverse the Election Committee decision, and, depending upon which is appropriate, add or strike a candidate's name from the slate certification.

S6-401: Time For Decision

The Tribal Court has ten (10) days to act on the appeal preceding election day. Failure of the Tribal Court to render a decision within

twenty (20) days is an affirmation of the Election Committee's decision.

ARTICLE VII BALLOTS

S7-101: Candidate's Names

The name of any candidate for office shall be printed on the official ballot as set forth in the declaration of candidacy without any prefix, suffix, or title. A nickname may be included if properly requested. Position on ballot will be determined by order of filing for a particular office. As soon as the candidates filing period closes and period for challenges expires without a timely challenge, the Election Committee will prepare a ballot. If a candidacy challenge is filed, the ballot will be prepared as soon as the challenge is resolved.

S7-102: Unopposed Candidates

Any candidate who is unopposed for an office shall:

- Appear on the ballot with the designation "unopposed" printed next to his name, and
- On election day be deemed elected to that office.

S7-103: Ballot Care

Specific instructions to the voter may be printed at the top of the ballot. Ballots shall not be numbered or show any other lettering or identifiable markings, unless such markings be on a perforated "tear-off" slip to be removed prior to placing the ballot in the ballot box.

- Only one ballot shall be cast by each eligible voter.
- A ballot shall be cast only after the voter has signed the poll register unless voting by absentee ballot.
- Election Committee officials shall account for all "ballots."
- A ballot shall be issued to each eligible voter by mail or through distribution at the tribal offices by the Election Committee.

ARTICLE VIII ABSENTEE VOTING

S8-101: Eligibility

Any voter can vote by absentee ballot.

S8-102: Application

Requests for absentee ballots may be written, printed or typed and must include the correct mailing address, roll number, and legal signature of the person making the request.

S8-103: When To Apply

Requests to vote an absentee ballot must be made not less than twenty (20) days prior to the election.

S8-104: Receiving Ballot and Absentee Voter List

After final certification of slate the Election Committee will have ten (10) working days to print ballots. Ballots will be mailed as soon as possible after final certification of slate and upon receipt of an appropriate and timely request. The Election Committee shall maintain an accurate written record ("Absentee Ballot List") of all ballots so issued, including the name, address, roll number, and legal signature of the voter to whom the absentee ballot was issued, and the date of the issue immediately after final certification of the slate at a timely or appropriate request.

S8-105: Voting

Those voting by absentee ballot shall mark their ballots, seal them in an inner envelope, and see that the absentee ballot is timely delivered. Only the outer envelope shall have the voter's name, return address, roll number and legal signature written upon it.

S8-106: Delivering Completed Ballot

Those wishing to vote by absentee ballot must see that their outer envelope with enclosed inner envelope and absentee ballot are delivered to the designated post office box not later than 10:00 a.m. of the last Saturday in June.

S8-107: Handling

All absentee ballots received by the Election Committee shall remain in a locked post office box provided for that purpose in Tecumseh, Oklahoma Post Office until 8:00 a.m. on election day, at which time the Election Committee Chairman, or an election official designated by the Chairman, and at least one other election official shall:

- Receive the ballots from the post office,
- Personally transport them to the polling place,
- Deliver them immediately, still sealed, to the remaining member of the Election Committee.
- Deposit them unopened in a special locked ballot box.
- The same procedure shall be followed at 10 a.m., and
- Tabulate them immediately upon delivery by election officials in the presence of candidates poll watchers.

S8-108: Procedure Mandatory

No absentee ballot will be received at any time or by other means than provided for herein.

ARTICLE IX CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS CHAPTER ONE VOTING

S9-101: Voting Period

The polls shall be opened at each polling place from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Saturday the day of General Council meeting. Any voter in line at the polling place at 2:00 p.m. but unable to cast a ballot before 2:00 p.m. shall be allowed to cast a vote.

S9-102: Voting

All voting is by secret ballot. Upon being identified as being on the officials voters' list and not having previously received a ballot, each prospective voter shall:

- Be handed an unused ballot by an election official,
- Sign his name on a voter register, kept for that purpose, to

Continued on the next page

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acknowledge receipt of the ballot,

- c. Vote in privacy, in a voting booth, by marking the box opposite the name of the candidate supported by the voter,
- d. Fold the ballot so the choice cannot be seen by others, and
- e. Personally deposit the ballot in the ballot box.

S9-103: Voter Assistance

The election officials may allow a voter to obtain the assistance of any person in casting a vote if the voter is physically unable to cast a ballot and assistance, without previous suggestion, is requested. The Election Committee shall decide whether assistance may be rendered which decision shall be final and unappealable.

S9-104: Marking The Ballot

A ballot shall show only the marking of the voter's choice and shall not show more choices than the election calls for. A person may choose not to vote for any candidate for a particular office. However, if a voter marks a ballot so that the vote is apparently for more than one candidate for a single office or for a candidate not properly listed, or bearing any other such material errors, the ballot will not be counted, but will be marked by official, and retained a hereinafter provided.

S9-105: Mutilated Ballots

If a voter mutilates a ballot or renders the ballot unusable another may be obtained, and the mutilated ballot shall be folded and marked "mutilated" in ink. Each member of the Election Committee on duty at that polling place shall sign below this marking and the mutilated ballot shall be placed in a large envelope marked "mutilated ballots." The envelope containing all mutilated ballots shall be placed in a large envelope marked "mutilated ballots." The envelope containing all mutilated ballots shall be placed in the ballot box at the end of voting.

S9-106: Unused Ballots

Ballots unused at the end of the voting shall be tied together, marked "unused" in ink, signed by at least two election officials, and placed in the ballot box at the end of voting.

CHAPTER TWO COUNTING THE VOTE

S9-201: The Tally

All election material shall be transported to the counting room. Thereafter, the Election Committee shall:

- a. Unlock the ballot box(s),
- b. Remove the regular ballots and
- c. Tabulate the vote.

S9-202: Verifying The Absentee Ballot

The Election Committee shall count the absentee ballots. Each outer envelope shall be opened, but the inner envelope shall remain unopened at that point. The Chairman shall then determine:

- a. Whether the person whose name is signed to the outer envelope and affidavit is a qualified voter,
- b. Whether the voter is on the absentee ballot list,

S9-203: Counting Ballots

The Election Committee shall count the absentee ballots.

S9-204: Observing Tally

At least two election officials shall view each ballot, and each counter shall keep a separate tally of the votes cast. Each candidate may select a watcher, not a candidate, who shall not interfere with the tally process, but can observe and keep a separate record of the tally of the ballots.

S9-205: Rejection of Ballots

If, during the tallying of the votes, the members of the Election Committee are unable to determine from a ballot the choices of a voter, the ballot shall be rejected. A rejected ballot shall be marked "rejected" in ink. Each member of the Election Committee shall sign his name below this marking. Rejected ballots shall be kept together, and placed in the ballot box at the end of the tally.

S9-206: Certified Abstract

- At the close of the tally, the Election Committee members shall:
 - a. Open the ballot boxes and display the empty box to all persons present to insure that no ballots are contained therein,
 - b. Determine the total vote cast including the absentee ballots for each candidate for each office,
 - c. Write down these totals, together with the number of rejected ballots, spoiled ballots, unused ballots and total ballots printed,
 - d. Sign the written totals as a certified abstract of the election results,
 - e. Read the certified abstract aloud to the public,
 - f. Deliver copies of the certified abstract to:
 - 1. The Business Committee
 - 2. The Tribal Court Clerk, and
 - 3. The Election Committee files in the tribal Secretary's Office.

S9-207: Recounts

If the votes cast for two or more candidates (with the highest vote) is tied, or is the highest vote is larger than the next highest vote by less than 10% of the total vote cast for that office, the Election Committee shall recount the vote for that office on all the unmutilated unrejected ballots, rejecting any which it is unable to determine the choice of the voter. The recounts shall continue until two consecutive counts agree, and a new abstract shall then be prepared and read aloud to the public.

S9-208: Request For Recount

Since the Election Ordinance provides for automatic recount of ballots, any request for recount of ballots must list the reasons therefore in writing and be submitted to the Election Committee Chairman, or his designated representative within two (2) working days after the election.

Such request must be accompanied by a non-refundable cashier's check of \$250.00 made payable to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Said check shall be forwarded to the tribal Secretary-Treasurer to be credited against the cost of the recount. The Election Committee shall meet and decide within five (5) days of receipt of the notice whether or not such reason listed in the request are sufficient to cause a recount

of ballots. If no recount is made, the \$250.00 is refunded.

S9-209: Run-Off Elections

A candidate for membership on the Business Committee must receive the highest number of votes in order to be elected. If the abstract shows that the highest number of votes cast for two or more candidates for an office is tied, a run-off election shall be held within sixty (60) days after the general election. The Election Committee shall supervise the run-off election following the same rules and procedures followed in the general election. Subsequent run-off elections may be held in the same manner if necessary. As soon as some candidate has received a higher vote than any other candidate, no further run-off elections will be had.

S9-210: Retention of Ballots

Upon completion of the election and announcement of the certified abstract, the Election Committee shall lock all ballots and records in the ballot box and deposit the ballot box in the vault of the designated bank, post office, or other secure area as approved by the Election Committee, to be held for safekeeping until final certification of the election results and installation of all officers. Only the Chairman and Secretary of the Election Committee shall have access to these records. After installation of all officers, the Election Committee shall return all ballots and election records to the tribal Secretary to be placed in permanent confidential tribal records for a period of five (5) years.

The documents will not be available for public viewing in order to preserve the confidentiality of the persons voting in the election. From and after the date of final installation of all elected officials and after the five-year period is completed, the tribal Secretary may remove the election ballots and records, except the final certification of successful candidates, and destroy them.

The final certification of election results entered by the Election Committee shall not be removed but shall be retained as a permanent public record.

S9-211: Election Certification

The Election Committee shall certify the election results for all uncontested offices immediately after the two (2) working day period for filing an election contest expires. If an election office is timely contested, then no certificate of election for contested office shall be issued until, if appropriate, after the election contest is finally decided.

S9-212: Finality

The Election Committee's certification of uncontested election results or the Election Committee's certification of the election results following an election contest provided for herein shall be final unappealable.

ARTICLE X INSTALLMENT

S10-101: Installment

In order to provide for an orderly transition of power, all newly-elected officers shown on the certificate of election shall be installed immediately following the election.

S10-102: Effect Of Installment

Once an officer is installed, removal is only by impeachment, recall or some other procedure authorized by the tribal constitution or recount certification.

S10-103: Incumbents

Consistent with Article 12, Section 1 of the Tribal Constitution, the term of an incumbent office holder shall not expire until installation of his successor.

ARTICLE XI ELECTION CONTEST CHAPTER ONE ELECTION COMMITTEE REVIEW

S11-101: Who Can Contest

Only a candidate for the disputed office may contest the election results for that office.

S11-102: Grounds

Only two (2) grounds may be asserted for contesting an election. The grounds are that the Election committee erroneously counted or failed to count ballots, which failures were of such a magnitude that:

- a. Either the contestant is entitled to be elected to the office, or
- b. It is impossible to determine with mathematical certainty which candidate is entitled to be elected to the office.

S11-103: When To Contest

A contest can only be initiated by:

- a. Timely filing with the Election Committee a verified statement setting forth the particular grounds for the contest, and
- b. Depositing \$250.00 in cash with the Election Committee to cover cost of the hearing (if the contest is successful, the cash deposit shall be refunded).

S11-105: Election Committee Hearing

The Election Committee shall set a hearing of the contest no later than five (5) days after the contest is filed. Written notice of such hearing shall be mailed or delivered to each candidate for the office contested. Any party to the election protest and the Election Committee shall have the right to view the election ballots and records in the presence of the Election Committee Chairman in the tribal offices. Any party to the protest or a tribal member shall be entitled to copies of the ballots from the Court Clerk upon payment to said clerk of normal and customary charges. Said certified copies shall be received as evidence by the Election Committee in like manner as an original. Alternatively, the Election Committee, upon request of a party or on its own motion, may convene a hearing for any protested election at the Tribal Courthouse, Shawnee Indian Agency, for the purpose of reviewing the election materials. After hearing the proofs and allegation of the contestants, the Election Committee shall make factual findings and one of the following conclusions:

- a. That the contested election should be confirmed, or
- b. The contestant should be declared the winner of the election, or
- c. The contested election should be set aside and a new election held.

S11-201: Appeal

Any proper party to an election contest aggrieved by the findings and decisions of the Election Committee may appeal to the Tribal Court.

S11-202: Time

An appeal must be filed within five (5) days of receipt of notification of the decision of the Election Committee.

S11-203: Parties

The Election Committee and the person whose election is challenged are indispensable parties to the appeal. Any other candidate for that office may intervene. The individual Election Committee members are not necessary or proper parties to such action. The tribal attorney shall represent the Election Committee.

S11-204: Relief

The Tribal Court whose decision is final may only:

- a. Confirm with Election Committee decision,
- b. Order a new election for the contested office, or
- c. Reverse the Election Committee decision and order the Election Committee to certify the election of the contestant to the office.

S11-205: Standard

Neither the Election Committee nor the Tribal Court shall invalidate any certified abstract of election results and order a new election for an office unless clear and convincing evidence shows that the person receiving the most votes for the contested office as shown on the certified abstract cannot be mathematically determined to be the clear winner.

ARTICLE XII REFEREDUM

S12-101: General Council Resolutions

Because they relate to claims or rights growing out of treaties only, all General Council Resolution shall be voted on in a referendum vote.

S12-102: Absentee Votes

All absentee votes shall be handled by the Committee in the same manner as that prescribed for casting tribal election ballots. All absentee ballots must be distributed at least twenty (20) days prior to any General Council meeting and received by the Election Committee by 10:00 a.m. on the day of any General Council Meeting. These ballots will be received for counting and counted on the day of the General Council Meeting and the results certified to the Business Committee. The issues to be voted on must receive a majority vote for adoption. Results of the vote will be published in the tribal newspaper.

S12-103: Resolution Preparation

Preparation of Resolutions for referendum vote shall be by the Business Committee or by provisions provided for under Article X of the Tribal Constitution.

ARTICLE XIII SPECIAL ELECTIONS

S13-101: Election Board

When a special election is properly called, the Business Committee by resolution shall establish an independent election board to conduct the special election.

S13-102: Composition

The independent election board shall have the same composition as that of the Election Committee provided for herein.

S13-103: Powers Of The Election Board

The independent election board shall have the same powers and duties as set forth herein for the Election Committee and shall have such further powers as are necessary to carry out the duties imposed by the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws. Further, the independent election board will have the power to establish different time periods for filing, challenges, contest and appeals, but shall not have power to change the other substantive and procedural rules provided for herein including, by way of example only, the eligibility to vote and the eligibility and qualifications of a candidate.

ARTICLE XIV VIOLATIONS

S14-101: Misdemeanor

In addition to any other penalties (civil or criminal) provided by law, any person willfully violating the duties and obligation imposed by this ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be punished up to the maximum allowed for misdemeanors.

S14-102: Venue And Jurisdiction

The venue and jurisdiction for all violation is exclusively in the Tribal Courts.

ARTICLE XV QUO WARRANTO

S15-101: What Is Quo Warranto

Quo warranto is the name of the writ by which title to an office is resolved. It is not a substitute for or an alternate to the election challenges or appeals provided herein before.

S15-102: Who May Seek

Only a person claiming a better right to the office may bring a quo warranto action.

S15-103: Who Is The Proper Party Defendant

The only proper party defendant is the person who holds title to the office.



Phoenix Regional Meeting

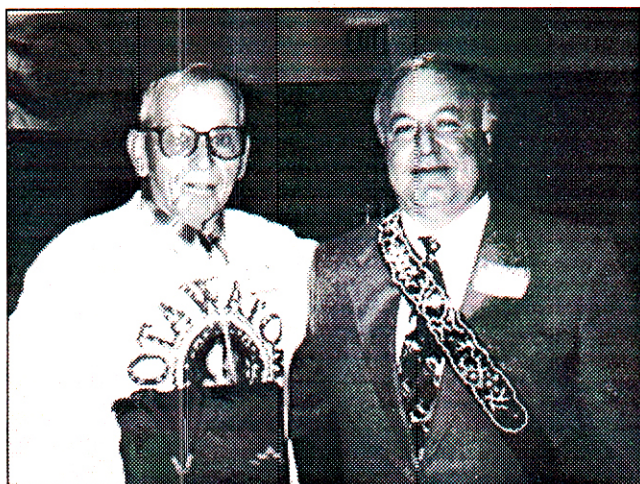
Hilton Airport • Phoenix, Arizona • Feb. 8, 1997



Committeeman J.P. Motley, left, poses with Deanna LeClair Neves of Albuquerque, NM, who received a gift for traveling the farthest. A descendant of the LeClair, Rhodd and Bruno families, she's originally from Ponca City, Oklahoma.



Deputy Administrator Bob Trousdale has a whole picture full of family. Shown from left are Linda Harris, Mona Bayless, Susan Toupin, Roberta Gottfried, Anita King, John Ranson and Josie Schmidt.



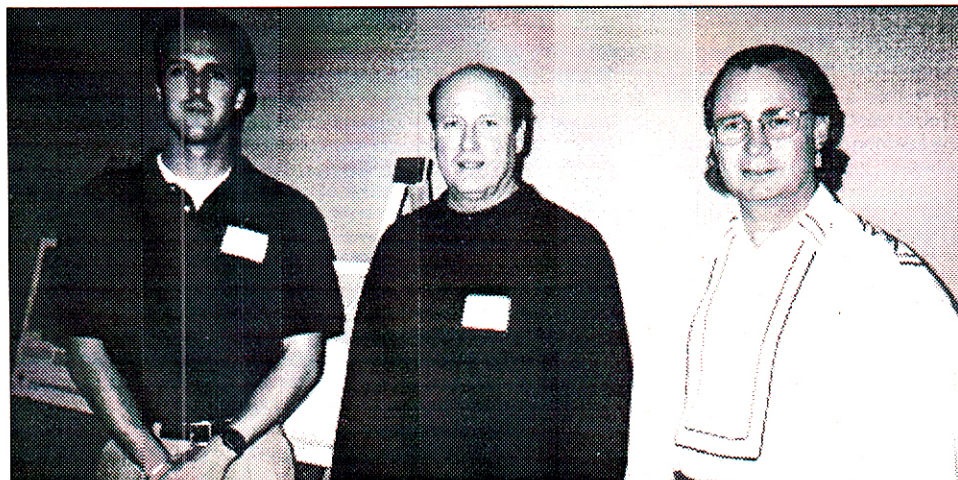
Bob Whistler of Phoenix was again recognized as "wisest" by Chairman John Barrett. Mr. Whistler is 86 years young.



Trevor Yanke, 4, received a stuffed buffalo toy for being the youngest enrolled member present. He is the grandson of Philonise Williams.



Among the guests were Georice and William "Bill" Ketterman of Mesa, Arizona. Bill is a descendant of the Welfdt family.



Chris and Burke Wyatt and cousin David Whittall, all of Phoenix, have a family visit.



Committeeman Hilton Melot, center, poses with Dororthy Kasprowick and Rose Trainor of Sun City, Arizona.

Phoenix Regional Meeting



Hilton Airport • Phoenix, Arizona • Feb. 8, 1997



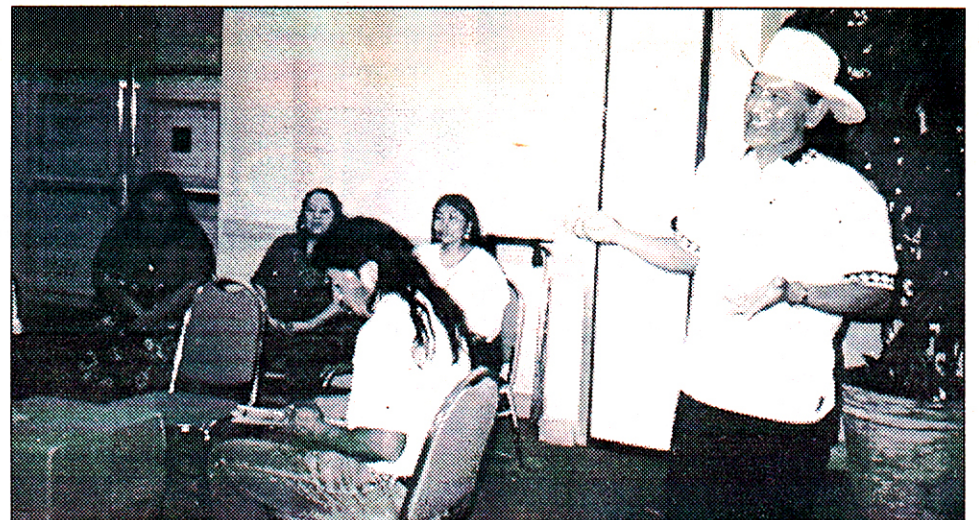
Barry Goldwater High School students preparing for a Literature Fair in March visited the meeting as part of their research and learned about the tribe from Chairman Barrett, center. From left are Scott Waymire, Renea Krob, Crystal Buxton, English teacher Kathleen Szczepzaniak and her daughter Tricia Miller.



Regional Coordinator Philonise Williams read a poem called "The Sacred Songs of Our Ancestors" at the close of her program on the Trail of Death, which included a video available at the gift shop.



These Brunos had a good visit: from left, Anthony of Glendale; Veta and Leon of Tecumseh, OK; and Gene of Oklahoma City, OK. Leon is a former tribal chairman and Gene is the current secretary-treasurer of the tribe.



Members of the Pima Tribe were special guests. Barnaby Lewis of the Gila River Pima Tribe tells how his people were given the name of "River People."



Janice and Bill Staude and grandchildren Brent and Zachary of Phoenix.



Marcia Hoover helped the children with arts and crafts during the day.



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REGIONAL REPORTS

South Texas

Bo Sho Nikan,

I have enjoyed your telephone calls these past few days, and I realize that your HowNiKan arrived after the February 8th date of the local Intertribal Pow Wow. So did mine!

So now we know about third class postage and that's just life in these United States. I was blessed with many friends at the Pow Wow, and think you would have been "okay" with my representing the Potawatomi as Head Lady Dancer. I want you to know that the best part of it was the opportunity to do my "giveaway" and thus honor those longtime friends and the local Elders and the little children who come to dance regularly. It would have made your hearts happy to see those little ones. We had a Cheyenne Drum, "White Buffalo," with us, down from Dallas for the evening, and they were very good.

In the photo, you can see Lyndon Alex, the Head Man Dancer, and me enjoying the songs and dance. Lyndon is a good friend and has been to our Council Meeting here in Houston to Hoop Dance for us. He is Alabama Coushatt and lives at Livingston, Texas on the Reservation. He is a tribal policeman.

We will meet in council again, here in



Lyndon Alex, Lu Ellis

South Texas, on March 22nd. You will have your invitations in hand in plenty of

time to make plans to come. I look forward to seeing you, as do our Chairman Mr. Barrett, our business committee and the others who will be with us here. We are blessed to have people who will sacrifice their weekends and family time to travel to us.

This is election year again, for our Chairman, and it's not too early to tell you, I expect to see a MUCH BETTER TURN OUT when it is time to vote, than I saw last year. We have been given the opportunity to be a vital part of our tribal government, as well as a force for good in the regions in which we live. But I want you to know, it won't matter how many doors are opened for you by your tribal government or by your regional directors. If you don't walk through those doors, we are laboring in vain out here, and you don't have a gripe coming!

We will have a video about the Trail of Death for you to see at the council meeting that is a good history lesson for all of us. And our guests will tell you of the many changes being made at "home." I really look forward to seeing all of you then.

Be well, and take care of each other,
Ba Ma Me Na,

Lu Ellis

North Texas

The cold and dreary days of January and February — and no football games on TV — give us time for reflection about our family and lives. The euphoria of the holidays lingers in our hearts and the promise of spring gives us hope for a new beginning. The daffodils are budded and ready to bloom. Just a few more days of sunshine should produce those yellow blooms.

Along with the awakening of the things of nature seems to come a yearning for knowledge of the past. I continue to receive calls from people looking for pieces to put the puzzle of their ancestry together. Some of the callers are Potawatomi, some are married to Potawatomi, some are neither. One man called with a change of address. His family had been split up when he was a young boy and he was so excited about locating his brothers and sisters and exploring their Potawatomi roots.

Friends bring me articles they have read in the paper or tell me of a movie, TV show, or book they have read regarding the Native American. At my 50th high school reunion one man gave me his card and told me of his interest in the archaeological finds and how honored he had felt to be allowed to be at one of the digs on Native American land. So it was very in-

teresting to read in the HowNiKan about having our very own resident tribal archaeologist to explore and protect our cultural resources. And I again explain to my callers how lucky we are in our tribe to have our headquarters and Mary Farrell to help.

I'm still trying to schedule a class on making shawls and doing ribbon work,

but no definite plans have been made. I will notify those of you who contacted me when plans are completed.

Hope your New Year is coming along nicely. Not everyone has had the good mixed in with the bad weather we have had here in Texas, so hope you are keeping well and warm and sharing our promise of Spring to come. To paraphrase and steal a famous saying, if Spring comes, Pow Wow cannot be far behind. So make your plans. It will be an exciting time this year.

Marj Hobdy

Colorado

Bozho,

Along with a forecast for snow this evening, the promise of Spring and good health is in the air. I sincerely wish that I had more news to report. HOWEVER, I guess that everyone must still be hibernating here.

I have had a few calls regarding scholarship information, and classes for language, shawls and ribbonwork. If you are interested in any of the above please give me a call so we can set some dates and get a head count.

There have been several healing ceremonies, and ceremonies to wipe the tears of grief. The Indian community as a whole is preparing for the 1997 pow wow sea-

son. Be sure to mark your calendar for the 1997 Denver March Pow Wow March 21-22-23 at the Denver Coliseum.

My family has had an unusual amount of winter illness. Last week my youngest son Johyn had to have emergency surgery. I wish to thank everyone for their prayers and support. If you have called the tribal office and not gotten a return call, please call back. I will return your calls, as soon as I can.

"Wisdom is divided into two parts,
a. Having a great deal to say
b. Not saying it."
Until next time,

Penny Bishop

REGIONAL REPORTS

Washington State

Ahaw (or as it's pronounced, "How," meaning hello) from Seattle!

The permit form has arrived from the school district so one more item is falling into place for our 1997 regional meeting on April 19th! I hope you have a large star marked on the date and will be here for all the fun. You will be getting a flyer in early March outlining the activities, place and times, but please do me a favor. If you have children in kindergarten through 6th grade and you want them to participate in our children's project, please RSVP early so we can be sure to have enough supplies for everyone. I'd appreciate having their head count by April 10th so Karleena can make one last run out for supplies and have time to get kits together.

The trip north wasn't quite as idyllic as I'd planned. The company was great, the surroundings glorious! But the snow kept coming. And coming. Avalanches prevented participation in all we'd wanted to do and almost kept us up there longer than planned but fortunately they cleared the roads so we could get to Banff and Calgary to shop. The Stoney Indian women do some wonderful beadwork!

Language classes are proceeding as we've moved from using the tapes from Shawnee to using our tape recorders and a lot of practice as Bill teaches us to form sentences and try to talk. I've wanted so badly to learn the language and it's so hard but some of it is finally beginning to

make some sense. Since we're all in the same boat in class, we're having a lot of fun. Please, come join us. I can help you with these things you've missed and I know that Norman would be happy to send out anything he can to also assist you. My thanks to you who have come so faithfully to study with us.

Do you need a back issue of *HowNiKan*? Maybe you need to complete your set, or a back issue has some family of historical information you like. I have assorted back issues beginning in 1994 — maybe a couple from '93 but I doubt it — and if you'd like any, let me know and I'll get them for you. I'm trying to clear out some space in my filing cabinet, a never-ending task! When I started in this office in 1992, the regional paperwork took up part of one drawer. Now all four are stuffed and it's time to clear out some so I can add new things (I know I save too much but it's such good stuff.) Remaining back issues will disappear into basement storage, which frightens Eric!

Prairie Moon Nursery has its new 1997 catalog available so give them a call at (507) 452-1362 to receive a copy. They specialize in "Native Plants & Seeds for Wetland, Prairie, Savanna and Woodland" and also sell books on herbs. I can't wait to see if the sweetgrass I ordered from last year comes up again this spring! It did great last summer.

The Office of Archaeology and Historic

Preservation in Washington State has just published a new book *A Field Guide to Washington State Archaeology*, featuring sections on the First Peoples and varied archaeological site across the state. For more information, contact them at: P.O. Box 4843, Olympia WA 98504-3843 or call (360) 753-4011.

Rhian is sporting a lovely blue cast these days, a remembrance of her two weeks on a fishing trawler. She was scheduled to spend 3-4 months but instead fell backward on deck when an unfriendly wave rocked the boat (in more ways than one!). She was treated in Dutch Harbor (where the physician's assistant remembered her from her barge experiences and

the bouts of the flu last fall) and was flown back to Seattle. She will be land-bound until April 1, when the doctor will determine if she can be released for duty.

Susan Campbell

Did you know that trees talk?

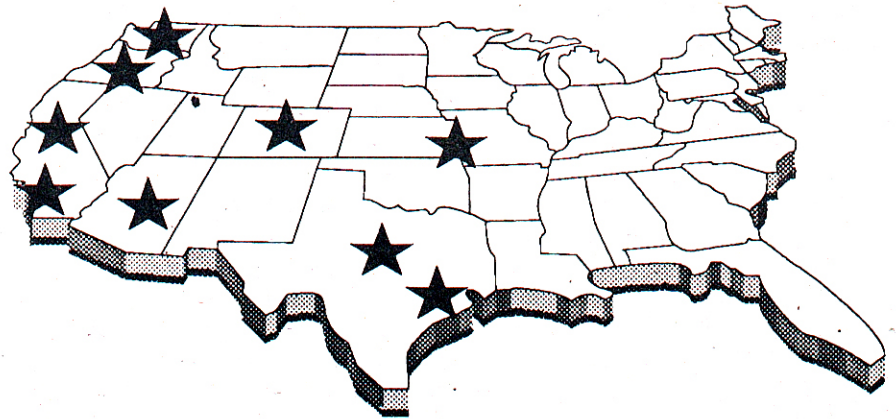
Well, they do.

They talk to each other, and they'll talk to you if you listen

I have learned a lot from trees; sometime about the weather sometimes about animals sometimes about the Great Spirit.

Walking Buffalo
Canadian Stoney Indian

Regional Councils



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.....	MARCH 8
HOUSTON.....	MARCH 22
SEATTLE.....	APRIL 19
PORTLAND.....	APRIL 20
KANSAS CITY.....	MAY 17

Bourzho Nicon:

Ne-je-Na? We are doing well here in our part of Oregon. I know you will be as excited as I was to hear, one of our Potawatomi members now sits in the House of Representatives in Salem. The 69th biennial legislative session opened on Monday, January 12th, with Rep. Jackie Taylor from Astoria representing her district and her tribe.

I visited Jackie in her office at the Capitol and presented her with a shawl that Maxine had made especially for her. We are so proud of you, Jackie! Jackie invites any tribal members to drop in and see her in her office H-486 in the Salem Capitol Building. She has a nice view from her window and has it decorated beautifully, in what else but Native American.

Several members of my family and I attended the Western Oregon State College Pow-wow Saturday, January 25th. It was their 4th annual Pow-Wow and put on by their multi-cultural students. It seems to get bigger every year. I like to

Oregon/Idaho

support them as my grandson helped to put the first one on, four years ago. A lot of traditional dancers attended. It was inspiring to say the least.

Fall term/semester is closing up and winter/spring term has started at many colleges. For those of you receiving money from the tribe, remember you must send in your grades and class schedules for

next term.

Seniors: You should have already explored your college choices with your parents. Be sure to meet with your school counselor to talk about choices, transcripts, etc. Register to take your SAT or ACT and write necessary essays. Ask for recommendations and get your applications turned in as soon after January as

possible. Start early and you won't feel the pressure a lot of students and parents feel.

It has been cold in Oklahoma this winter. It makes me concerned for our Elders there. We have lost several of our elders this year. My good friend, Bud On-Ja-Wa, in Shawnee has been under the weather this winter. I want him to know we are sending smoke for him. Hang in there, Bud!

I have our Oregon/Idaho Regional Meeting scheduled for April 20th. That's a Sunday, at "The Diner" at the Shilo Inn, in Eugene, Oregon, from 10-4 p.m. Those of you who have attended in the past know what a good buffet meal Morena serves, and the fun we have meeting new acquaintance and relatives. Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend with your spouses and children.

Megwitch,

Rocky Baptiste (Wahb che qwa)

Secrets are things we give to others to keep for us ...

REGIONAL REPORTS

Southwest

Bourzho Nicone,

"The time has come," the walrus said, "to talk of many things, like shoes and ships and wax and cabbages and kings," AND SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL (thank you, Lewis Carroll). Looks like it will be a good one!

We went to the Hoop Dancing contest at the Heard Museum last Sunday. Great dancers. It at one time was a dance for men only but now there are women in and they can really step. The dance started in Taos Pueblo, New Mexico. It is a healing, meditative dance that endeavors to teach young and old the basic goodness that life brings. The hoop represents the circle of life, and the dancers believe in the Great Spirit. Each movement represents an experience in the dancer's life. They make many things with the hoops such as flowers, birds,

butterflies and dragons. And as the dancer adds a hoop, he or she adds another year to their life. It is a beautiful and exhilarating dance to watch. I am so happy to have one of the dancers with us this year.

I do hope you will continue to keep in touch with me. It is important to me that you give me input as to what you want to learn and know about, how I may be able to help you ... so please keep the telephone ringing!

Gotta run — remember, in this world, there is only one day at a time, and each and every one of us has one. Let us use it wisely. We are all part of the same story as long as one of us is still around to remember.

Megwetch,

Philonise Williams

How ne-kan, (Hello, friend)

Now, let's see, the Regional Council Meeting will be happening about the time you get this, so what shall I report? I have of course been very busy with plans, etc. for the meeting. I've gotten many calls this month for referrals to the Indian clinics, employment agencies, and questions regarding our Health Aid Foundation and prescription plan, so time has flown once again.

The American Indian of Silicon Valley puts out a great pow-wow calendar complete with a resource directory for Indians in Northern California. It has a nice artwork as well. If you want one for yourself, contact them at (408)243-6517 or send \$15 to American Indian Alliance Calendar, 100 N. Winchester Blvd., Suite 290, Santa Clara, CA 95050. If any of you have a desire to volunteer in the creating of the next calendar with your talent in art, photography, writing, layout or computers, please contact them. Now, here follows a short list of upcoming events:

- March 15-Indian Education Pow-Wow, Homestead H.S., Cupertino (408)522-2238.
- March 21-"Full Circle," original native play, San Jose Stage, 8p.m. (405) 267-4609.
- March 29-Calif. State Univ. Stanislaus Pow Wow
- April 2-DQ Deed Day Pow Wow, 6

Northern California

p.m.-midnight, @DQ (916) 752-3237

• April 3 & 4-DQ Deed Day Pow Wow @ UC Davis. (916) 752-3237

• April 5 - Wild Flower Festival Arts & Craft Fair, Tule River (209) 781- 1519.

• April 19 - 10th Annual Mills College Pow Wow, 5000 MacArthur Blvd. Oakland, (510) 430-2341.

At our meeting, the children will receive a mini-language lesson with words for various animals, food, etc. that I have from the lessons in Shawnee. It's a start and I hope that anyone out there that knows a speaker or is a speaker of our language will come forward and help us to further this effort. I leave you with something I read in *News from Indian Country*. "When you lose the gods you pray to ... the land you live on... your own government and sovereignty, that's pretty horrible. But when you lose your language, you lose the soul of your culture because you are forever disconnected from the wisdom of your ancestors." — Lilikalla Kame'eiehiwa, Hawaiian.

Ee ya ee, (That is it.)

Jennifer Porter

Potawatomi Bishop Charles Chaput named archbishop of Denver

(From *The Rocky Mountain News*, Feb. 18, 1997) — Bishop Charles J. Chaput of Rapid City, S.D., was recently named the new archbishop of Denver. Chaput, 52, was pastor of Holy Cross Catholic Church in Thornton during the early 1980s.

Since 1988 he's been the bishop of Rapid City, S.D., a 34,000-member diocese where he is known as an orthodox bishop with strong loyalty to Vatican teachings and the pope.

Chaput (pronounced SHAP-yoo) will lead the 350,000-member Arch-diocese of Denver, which has been without a permanent leader since Archbishop J. Francis Stafford left for a Vatican post in November.

The new archbishop has been tapped more than once for a leadership role in Colorado. Ordained in the Capuchin order of Franciscan friars, Chaput was head of the Denver-based Capuchin Mid-America province for five years in the 1980s.

The Capuchins, who are known for their brown robes and commitment to serving the poor, have their headquarters at 3553 Wyandot St.

He is remembered affectionately in Denver for his warmth and personal interest in his parishioners.

In an interview last fall, former parishioners Tom and Anna Patterson recalled how even after becoming bishop, Chaput took the time to lead members of his former Denver flock on a 1990 pilgrimage to Rome.

"He's not on a pedestal," said Anna Patterson.

How will Chaput handle Denver's complex issues? There may be clues in his nine-year tenure in South Dakota.

Although one-tenth the size of the Denver archdiocese, Chaput's Rapid City flock was fully as diverse as Denver's which has a large Hispanic minority.

Part Potawatomi Indian, Chaput identified with the poor and disenfranchised, especially South Dakota's large American Indian population.

Chaput has also been known for his commitment to education. In Denver he will have to evaluate the archdiocese's Hearts on Fire and Seeds of Hope fundraising campaigns, designed to shore up the archdiocese's aging educational system.

Like all American bishops, Chaput also faces local dissidents.

As a staunch Vatican loyalist, Chaput can be expected to resist the worldwide modernist movement which is pushing for an array of changes including female priests, a married clergy, relaxed sexual morality and democratization of the church.

That protest menu provoked Stafford's last public act in Denver, when he banned a core activist group, We Are Church, from circulating petitions on church property.

Chaput will have to decide whether to enforce the ban, which We Are Church has defied recently by entering church grounds.

The South Dakota bishop is known for dealing with conflict "calmly and carefully," according to his second in command, diocese chancellor Sister Celine Erk.

Erk said when a group of ultraconservatives starting frequenting a Latin Mass not authorized by Rome, Chaput opened a year-long dialogue. The group disbanded.

But on doctrinal issues, Chaput has taken the direct approach. At a recent convention of U.S. bishops, Chaput argued forcefully that the modernized language of the liturgy has become alarmingly unorthodox and a poor reflection of Catholic teaching.

The new archbishop, who is 52, was born in Concordia, Kansas.

Support Your HowNiKan!

Mineral owners meeting set March 19

The next bimonthly meeting of Indian mineral owners with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management and the Minerals Management Service as required by the Kauley et al. Litigation Settlement Agreement will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 1997, beginning at 9 a.m. in the conference room at the Anadarko Area Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Anadarko, Oklahoma. During the morning session, a representative of each of the three

Federal Agencies will make a 45-minute presentation about a topic of interest to owners. Information required by the settlement agreement will be presented beginning at 1 p.m. Representatives of each of the three Federal Agencies will remain to answer owners' questions or concerns about oil and gas royalties. For more information, please call the office of Indian Royalty Assistance at (405) 879-6050 or toll-free at (800) 354-7015.

Tribal member urges others to take pride in heritage

Dear HowNiKan:

I have had a few things on my mind for quite some time now which I would like to address. We recently voted to declare ourselves as a sovereign nation and make a name change. This declaration made a resounding statement to the U.S. Government but what does it mean to us as individual and corporate members of this tribe? I asked myself the following questions and arrived at their respective answers.

What constitutes a Nation? A sovereign people!

What is required for it to be born? A quality decision made by its people accompanied by a sovereign declaration.

What must be in place for it to grow and prosper? Determination, direction, and most definitely — LEADERSHIP!

What date should mark its birth? The day of consensus and awareness in its peoples hearts, not the date of an election.

We are a Nation! A new day has dawned, a new era has begun. Indeed it did not begin last spring as we voted such a minor thing as a Tribal name change. It was conceived in the hearts of our leaders and birthed in our people LONG before that time. April merely marked the announcement.

I was registered as 1/8 Potawatomi at birth, a mathematical label to which I am still in contention. During my teenage years I began to feel a drawing in my spirit toward Indian people and although I har-



bored no animosity for them, away from non-Indians. Early in my college days I struggled with whether or not to join the Indian club because of my blood degree.

My dilemma was soon quelled by an old full blood Wichita woman who had decided to go to college. She told me that being a Indian was not a matter of "the blood" but rather a matter of "the heart." She looked at me and said "you are as much Indian as me, and more than many of these others." As strange as it may seem, in my life the Citizen Potawatomi Nation was born that very day. What about you? When did it happen in your life? Mark it in your mind, celebrate it much as you would a birthday for indeed — such it is!

Have you ever wondered why the beat of a tom-tom attracted you so, or why is it you hold such an affinity for feathers, or beads, or eagles, or buffalo? And why in the world do many of you men still feel as though you need to go visit Wounded Knee, just the way you felt in 1973? I took my mother along with my wife and children there in 1995. I don't recall ever having been so moved. Well, nicon, if the awakening has not fully occurred in you,

then do these two things:

First: Rent the movie "Thunderheart." Watch it by yourself as you may not want anyone to see you tear up.

Second: Buy a copy of the book "the Potawatomis, Keepers of the Fire" by R. David Edmunds (available in our gift shop.) Read it thoroughly.

I would be very surprised if you don't feel a lump in your throat when you read the first sentence of paragraph #1 on page 248. Read it a second time with an atlas in your hand as you follow the movements of our people. Highlight towns in "The Old Northwest" whose names you recognize. Don't be surprised if next summer's vacation to Disneyland doesn't get replaced by a visit to South Bend, Indiana, Green Bay, Wisconsin or Mayetta, Kansas. A visit to Shawnee in late June is likely to materialize as well. There is no breaking the connection to our heritage, our history, or our ancestors.

My father is buried at Verden, Oklahoma which is part of the original KCA Reservation. Since we owned multiple burial plots I always assumed my mother and her children would be buried next to my father. A while back I announced to my mother my desire to be buried at Wanette Cemetery (part of the original Potawatomi Reservation) My 79-year-old mother responded by telling me that for a long time she was afraid to tell us that she wanted to be laid to rest with her people and on "Our Land." Perhaps we need a

tribal burial ground.

The point is that the Awakening involves young and old alike!

As we began to unite in body let us all the more unite in spirit. Our families all lived, died and were buried together. Let us stand with and honor the leaders of our nation as never before. In doing so let us make some more needed name changes such as Chairman to Chief, and Committeemen to Elders. The honor due Mr. Barrett and our council can only be expressed in "traditional" terms. Allow present and future chiefs names to be placed along side others such as Chechepinquay, Waubensee, Shabbona, Metea, Topinbee, Siggenauk, and Winamac, Five Medals and many, many others who right or wrong through good and bad led our forefathers and ultimately saved our families.

The members of our Nation may not contain the largest degree of Indian Blood but may our blood ever be the purest and proudest. Let us learn our language, our songs, our dances, our traditions and pass them on to our children. May our future not see the day when the lightness of our skin ever again causes us to take a back seat to any Indian Tribe on this continent as WE ARE The Citizen Potawatomi Nation!

Megwetch,

James R. Blevins
A Potawatomi Indian
Verden, Oklahoma

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NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY

Don't judge a hero by her birthright

By Tim Giago

I thought I was being funny when I wrote a semi-humorous column a few years ago challenging those who would suggest that Indian tribes would be susceptible to Mafia influence as they increased their holdings in gaming casinos.

One of the people I worked into the column was the news director for KOTA-TV in Rapid City, S.D., named Helene Duhamel. In the column I referred to her as "Helene Duhinky," but I'm sure everyone in this region knew who I meant.

Duhamel Broadcasting is one of the oldest family owned communications companies in South Dakota. The KOTA television and radio stations reach many listeners and viewers in Western South Dakota, Wyoming and Northern Nebraska.

Because Helene was family member and heir to the Duhamel fortunes, I made the assumption that, having been born with a silver spoon in her mouth, she would never understand the trials and tribulations of the have-nots, particularly those from the Indian reservations.

It is terribly wrong to look at the trappings of any individual and read into them more than is actually there. Because one is lucky enough to be born into wealth does not mean that this person has no concept of poverty or race relations. As I discovered these past few years about Helene, the luck of the draw gave her an opportunity to become more involved in trying to help those without.

About five years ago, Helene was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease. She fought back. Seeking a cure required her to check into the M.D. Anderson Medical Center in Houston, Texas, for chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

An attractive anchorwoman for the nightly news, Helene soon suffered the side effects of this radical therapy. Her hair fell out and when the stubbles became prickly, she completed the job by shaving her head.

A devout Catholic, a former star basketball player at St. Martin's Academy in Rapid City, a mother and a wife, she also experienced the often-times humiliating and embarrassing methods used by some hospitals in the way they handle patients. She often found herself in an examining room stripped to the waist while people wandered in and out, many of them young men.

While wondering whether she would live or die, Helene, just 29 at the time, began to evaluate her life. Her strong religious beliefs became the foundation upon which she would build her future.

At first her prayers were sort of in desperation. She would pray, "God, please no, let me live to see my daughter get married. Let me raise her. My husband needs me, please." She said it was a desperate, needing kind of prayer where you ask what it is you can do to get the help you need. It was like "I'll do whatever you want me to do — just save me," she recalled.

As the illness and the treatments progressed, she began to look at things in the long run. Her short prayers for help became prayers taking in her entire life and family.

But the one thing she did that made me see her in a different light was going public with her illness. Each night on the news I, along with all of the other viewers, learned of her progression or digression. She talked about the chemotherapy and radiation treatments she received and even posed for the cameras with her shaved head. She made a disease most people are afraid to talk about an everyday thing. We walked with her through the worst and the best of times.

This was not the woman I believed to be above the fray. This was not the woman I castigated for having it all. This was a woman of courage and seemingly without fear. As I watched her each night or read about her struggle, I knew she was terribly frightened, but it was hard to see the fear. She covered it very well.

How many of us in the public eye would have the courage to lay our hearts and souls bare in order to allay the inordinate fear others have of this dreaded disease called cancer?

What Helene did was to make a frightening disease less frightening. She started to receive calls and letters from other cancer patients, not just those with Hodgkin's Disease, but from those with prostate or breast cancer. She received letters from those who had been diagnosed with cancer and were so afraid. They were able to share her courage, and by watching and listening to her describe her day-to-day treatment they were able to relieve some of that fear because now they were armed with knowledge they had not possessed prior to Helene's public display of her illness.

I learned that it is not what a person has been given in life but how they are brought up that matters. Helene's mother and father taught her values far beyond the communications business she was born to serve. They taught her humility and compassion. They taught her about racial prejudice and how it has damaged so many people in South Dakota. They taught her about "caring and sharing," which, incidentally, is the name of a charity she and her family support each year through their radio and television stations.

The battle for a cancer cure is never over. I know Helene must wake up each morning knowing the fight must go on, but I also know that she now greets each morning as a wonderful moment of hope.

I wrote this column because the young lady I criticized has grown up to be one of the bravest women I have ever known. In fact, Helene, you are my hero.

This column, written by prize-winning Native American journalist Tim Giago, first appeared in the Feb. 3, 1997 edition of Indian Country Today. Mr. Giago gave Tribal Chairman John Barrett, who admired the piece, permission to reprint it here.

The American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES)
SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM...

What:

A ten week internship program that provides qualified American Indian/Alaska Native college students with opportunities to explore potential federal service careers. Interns receive a competitive stipend and round-trip travel expenses between home or school and the work site.

Where:

Interns work with United States Federal Government agencies in Washington D.C. and other locations throughout the country. Under the guidance of mentors, who are knowledgeable professionals in their own fields, AISES summer interns work on projects relevant to their course of college study.

Who:

AISES interns are American Indian/Alaskan Native college students who are active in college and community activities, have demonstrated success in college and are recommended by their advisors or professors.

When:

June 2 through August 8, 1997

Why:

To help diversify the government workforce and to provide pre-career experiences for AISES students.

Eligible applicants must...

- have a GPA of 2.5 minimum (A=4.0);
- be enrolled and pursuing a degree in a college or university on a full time basis;
- have at least sophomore class standing at the time assignment begins; and
- be a U.S. citizen

To obtain additional information about the program, application materials, or information about implementing an internship program within your agency, please contact: AISES Jobs, Attn: Stephanie Paine 5661 Airport Blvd., Boulder, CO 80301-2339; call (303) 939-0023, ext. 31; or email: Stephanie.Paine@Colorado.edu. Application materials can also be accessed on the World Wide Web at <http://www.colorado.edu/AISES>.

Completed application materials must be received by April 11, 1997; however, review will begin as soon as applications are received.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will evaluate any offer from its members who wish to bring a business opportunity to the Tribe which can benefit from Minority Status under Section 8(a) of the Small Business Administration. The conditions under which the business would operate must be:

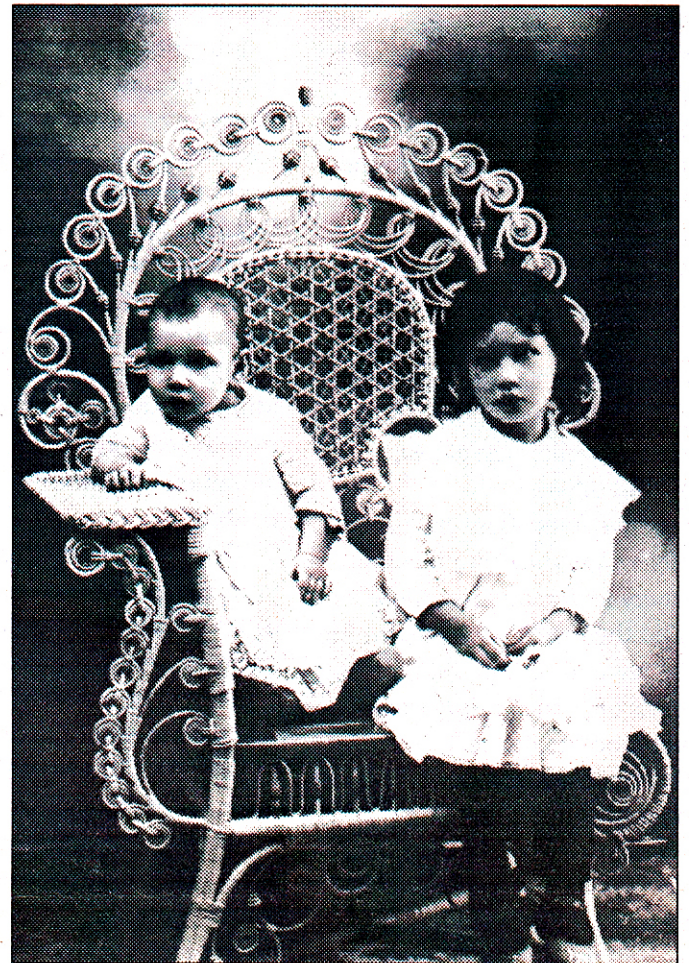
1. The business must be owned 100% by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.
2. All activities including staffing, marketing, equipment, work space will be provided by the member with the proposal.
3. Adequate working capital must be provided by the member with the proposal.
4. All proceeds of sales will go into a "lock box" distribution account at First National Bank, Shawnee, Oklahoma, with payments made from this account to pay (1) all suppliers and accounts payable, (2) a Citizen Potawatomi Nation percentage of the gross margin, and then (3) the balance is paid to the tribal member.
5. The business must be of a type that is complimentary to the public image of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Please submit all offers which conform to the above standards to John "Rocky" Barrett, Citizen Potawatomi Nation. This offer is made to Citizen Potawatomi Nation members only.

POTAWATOMI FAMILY ALBUM



*Left: Eva
Lena
Navarre,
About 1897*



*Right: Fay
Navarre, Seven
Months, And
Viola Agnes
Navarre, Four
And A Half
Years Old,
Taken At
Harrah,
Oklahoma, In
1903*

—— Navarre Family Photos Donated By Gladys Small Of Shawnee, Oklahoma ——



Turn of the Century Wedding

Eva Lena Navarre, the bride, is pictured with her groom, Gus Wilkowski, to her left. Seated at the far left are his grandparents, and next to the bride are her parents, Louis M. and Julia Navarre, who is holding Fay Navarre on her lap. Gladys Small, who donated the photo, thinks the year was 1900.

First night of pow-wow will be 'family night'

Continued from page 1

held on Saturday in past years, and like all the Friday events, will be just for Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members and their families. Tribal staff will also be encouraged to attend and visit with tribal members. Others, particularly campers who will already be set up in the adjacent campground, are welcome to watch.

"After supper, we'll all meet and Rocky (Tribal Chairman John A. "Rocky" Barrett) will greet everyone," Lowden said. As he does at regional councils, Chairman Barrett will recognize the various Potawatomi families represented as well as the eldest, youngest, and others.

"Then he will talk about the various dances," Lowden said. "We'll have dancers there to demonstrate those dances, and then we'll have lessons for those who have never danced before ... we want lots of participation. Rocky wants everybody to dance."

Lowden reminded those who are not accustomed to entering the ring that men don't need dance costumes, and neither do women, except for shawls. Just about any kind of shawl — or blanket — will do, although those interested in traditional dance shawls will find those on sale in the museum gift shop.

Two drums will be on hand to play for dancers, White Thunder, a Potawatomi drum, and Kenneth Cozad's Drum. This year's Potawatomi Prin-

cess, 14-year-old Kristy Phillips of Maud, will also be on hand. Kristy is the great-great-granddaughter of John Rhodd of Sacred Heart and the great-granddaughter of Edith Rhodd Nave.

Intertribal dance competition will be held Saturday and Sunday under the direction of Lowden and coordinators Joe Cozad and Carla Whiteman. Head Staff for this year's Pow-Wow includes Dean Whitebreast of Tama, Iowa, master of ceremonies; Stratford Williams of Anadarko, Oklahoma, master of ceremonies; Georgia Tiger of Stroud, Oklahoma, head lady dancer; Zack Morris of Shawnee, Oklahoma, head man dancer; and Lawrence Wahpepah of McLoud, Oklahoma, head gourd dancer.

There will be no drum contest this year, but White Thunder, the Northern drum coming from Indiana for Red Earth as well as the Potawatomi Pow-Wow, will be joined by Black Lodge. The second Southern drum, in addition to Kenneth Cozad's, will be Southern Thunder of Oklahoma.

Among other changes in the Pow-Wow this year are the elimination of fourth place and the increased prize money for ladies' contests. The Business Committee asked for the changes after suggestions from tribal members and staff.

Gourd dancing will be from 2-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and grand entry will be at 7 p.m. each night.



1997 Potawatomi Princess Kristy Phillips

Candidate filing is March 31-April 2 for tribal offices

Filing for three positions on the June 28, 1997, Citizen Potawatomi Nation election

ballot begins March 31 and continues through April 2.

Positions to be filled in this

year's election are Tribal Chairman and all three positions on the Grievance Commit-

tee. Chairman John Barrett has already announced that he will seek re-election.

headquarters and candidates will have until April 29 to withdraw.

The tribal Election Committee was sworn in Jan. 29 by Vice Chairman Linda Capps and has already begun to receive applications for absentee ballots. Those applications must be postmarked by June 9, 1997, to allow time for ballots to be mailed out and returned. The Election Committee will begin mailing out ballots as soon after filing as they are ready, probably about mid-April.

Candidates for tribal office must be enrolled tribal members at least 21 years of age, never convicted of a felony, and living in Pottawatomie, Seminole, Pontotoc, McClain, Oklahoma, Lincoln, Cleveland or Okfuskee counties in Oklahoma. Filing will be at tribal

Gary Bourbonnais is chairman of the Election Committee this year. Vice chairman is David Bourbonnais, secretary is Esther Lowden, assistant secretary is Don Yott and marshal is Harold Trousdale.

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION REQUEST FOR BALLOT • 1997 ELECTION

In order to comply with the 1997 Election Ordinance, please fill out this form and return to:
Potawatomi Election Committee, P.O. Box 310, Tecumseh, OK 74873

NAME: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

Under penalty of perjury, I hereby declare this to be my legal signature and Potawatomi Tribal Roll Number:

SIGNATURE: _____ TRIBAL ROLL NUMBER: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION BY JUNE 9, 1997

*Don't Forget!
HowNiKan
Deadline Is
The 5th Of
The Month!*